



Foggy Bottom News

February 2004

Published by the citizens of Foggy Bottom and the West End

Volume 46, No. 4

WG Hotel Conversion: To Be Or Not To Be?

By Ron Cocome

January 29 is the re-scheduled date for the Zoning Commission to hear a petition to amend the Watergate Planned Unit Development allowing the Watergate Hotel to be used for "residential purposes." Exactly one week before that hearing the members of the Watergate East Cooperative (WEI) will meet to discuss and vote on a proposed agreement with the want-to-be developers, Monument Residential. The approval of WEI is especially important because it owns—albeit on mandatory lease-back—real property interest in lower levels of the hotel.

Outlook Is Still Confused

Yet, at this late date, after months of discussion and an almost countless number of internal memos and analyses, the outlook appears more confused than ever. On the one side, the opponents are concerned about such things as property values, density, and the fiscal history and integrity of the developers. Many also simply want the property to remain a hotel with the amenities it currently provides to the community. Then, of course, there are those who believe the money offered to WEI to be too little. Those who favor a negotiated agreement with the developers point to the stability that the new condominium

Hotel, to page 6

Update



Condemnation Hearing Held on Luzon Building

The Luzon Building, at 1100 25th Street, was the subject of a hearing by the Board for the Condemnation of Insanitary Buildings on January 14, 2004. The hearing was requested by the owner, Fairfield Resorts.

At the hearing, representatives of the owner disclosed its intention to stabilize the facade of the building, and raze the remainder. The owner is planning to develop the property into a timeshare. Ted Hunter, Fairfield's Regional Director, Planning, explained that while timeshares are best known at resort areas, their urban counterparts have become popular and successful, such as one they operate in Alexandria. The building is to have about 54 units and is expected to be completed in 2006.

According to Gwen Davis of the BCIB, the hearing was requested by the owner because the Department of Consumer & Regulatory Affairs had determined there was substantial roof leakage liable to damage the building, and had moved to make appropriate repairs. The building, va-

cant for many years, has historic landmark designation.

According to regulations, following notification of condemnation proceedings, the owner may "abate" the nuisance by properly securing and weatherizing it, or may apply for a raze permit. Since the building is landmarked, permission for complete demolition is unlikely. Some repairs have recently been made to the building, e.g. boarding up windows, blocking access, etc.

The BCIB is a part of the D.C. Department of Consumer & Regulatory Affairs, and it may call for a hearing upon a complaint from a citizen, an ANC, or a government employee. Ms. Davis informed the News that the leakage which precipitated the DCRA action was discovered by Neighborhood Service Officers during a routine inspection.

Architect Plans House in Hughes Mews

Sid Rasekh, an architect, appeared before the December meeting of ANC-2A with plans and drawings for a house to be built in the north section of Hughes Mews. Its lot is di-

Update, to page 4

Multiple Traffic/Transportation Initiatives Are Presented and Discussed

The correct word for meetings and presentations on traffic and transportation issues might be proliferation.

—A "downtown circulator" system has been proposed to move people, especially visitors, around the downtown, tourist (e.g. Georgetown) and monument areas. One proposed route would serve the White House, Foggy Bottom, and the State Department area. Another involves K Street and into Georgetown.

—December 2 and January 8 were the first two monthly meetings in preparation for proposed changes to the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge. The current plans calls for "Design year; 2025."

—On December 11 a community briefing was held at Francis Junior High School on the K Street Busway Study, a scheme to dedicate the middle two lanes of K Street to bus-only traffic, removing the current service lanes east of Washington Circle.

—The D.C. Department of Transportation has issued a draft report on improving truck traffic within the city, designating a list of three-tiered truck routes, banning certain truck traffic during "rush hour," and mandating permits to use certain streets.

—Under study is a proposal to control tour bus traffic within the city, to provide bus parking areas and prevent tour buses from blocking and impeding traffic.

—And resurrected, also during December, is the proposed demolition of the Whitehurst Freeway. The latest proposal was presented to the Citizens Association of Georgetown's December meeting by architect Joe Passoneau, DDOT personnel, and Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans who advocates the highway's removal.

—Another proposal, for "new transit alternatives" such as light rail and bus rapid transit, was presented earlier and will be discussed at the Foggy Bottom Association meeting January 26.

FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION MEETING

All Residents Welcome

Guest Speaker:

Vincent Orange
D.C. Councilmember

Monday, January 26, 2004

The Melrose Hotel

2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

7:30 p.m.

(Next meeting: Monday, February 23, 2004)

The Foggy Bottom Diner

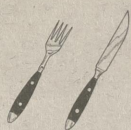
By Jim Patterson

Marshall's Bar and Grille

Marshall's Bar and Grille, 2524 L Street, is just the place to eat on a cold winter evening. The warm atmosphere and fine food, including home-made pasta, fresh seafood and prime steaks, make for an excellent dining experience.

Diners can choose meals from three menus: The Daily Menu. The Regular Menu. The Pre-Theatre Menu. On a recent evening I chose the 3-course pre-theatre menu, which is priced at \$19. This menu is available from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For starters, I had a bowl of spinach and white bean soup. Actually there were more carrots than beans in my soup but I love carrots. My entree was meat-stuffed ravioli in a tomato sauce with fresh Parmesan cheese. The soup and ravioli were excellent! I passed on the dessert.



When you visit Marshall's plan to enjoy the pre-theatre menu which offers entrees like rainbow trout, pork chops, and herbed roast chicken. Dessert options are vanilla ice cream, raspberry sorbet, or white chocolate bread pudding. This menu is a bargain.

This neighborhood restaurant had a capacity crowd for Christmas Day, when it was visited by a large contingent from the Royal Shakespeare Company, at the Kennedy Center until early January. The manager, Jose Soares, told The Washington Times that cast members also had been "unwinding" there after performances with a glass of beer or wine.

Also, Marshall's offers half-priced hamburgers on Monday nights, and accepts the FBA card for a 10% discount on your meal (which doesn't apply to any other discount).

Coming soon: Thai Coast will be located at the site formerly occupied by Donatello's. The former Shiro-Ya next door is due to be remodeled for another venue called 51st State.

Becker Beat



The recent relative lull—perhaps before the storm—in zoning hearings and court cases involving GW has been replaced by a proliferation—yes, that is the right word—of announcements, proposals, studies, etc., etc. by transportation officials and their ever-present traffic consultants. Foggy Bottom/West End and Georgetown are drowning in them!

One observation and three questions.

The observation—what we in Foggy Bottom and probably in Georgetown as well want more than anything is for DDOT to finish their work on our streets. It's M Street in Georgetown, of course, but in FB it's Virginia Avenue and the Kennedy Center area. All big jobs, but we despair of ever seeing the last of large potholes (have you seen the ones at New Hampshire and F?), rough, unfinished pavement, an ugly and rusting gray storage facility killing the grass, and big orange barrels. It's been forever. It seems the only traffic change accomplished with alacrity—I just love that word—was the change from one-way north to two-way traffic on 26th Street



February 2004

Volume 46, No. 4

FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. Its 5,500 copies are distributed to residences and businesses in the Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhoods. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the editor and writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

Editor
Ad Manager

Ellie Becker
Rita Champagne

To place ads, call Rita Champagne at 293-1439. Cost for classified ads is 60 cents per word; a 2-inch high by 2-column wide ad is \$42.00.

March issue: to be distributed February 20-21

Copy deadline: February 5; Camera-ready: February 12

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for the benefit of Jack Evans' law firm.

Question 1: Why did many of these meetings and presentations, often with little notice, take place around the holiday season, when people are otherwise occupied?

Question 2: We keep hearing about the city's financial woes. Where is the

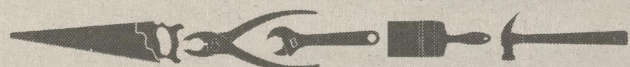
money to pay these myriad consultants coming from?

Question 3: Does anyone recall that DDOT warned us, especially those in the Watergate, about the new, exceedingly bright streetlights on Virginia Avenue?

Space for the answers will be gladly given for publication in the March FBNews.



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Catherine Comiskey— In Memoriam

By Jim McGrath

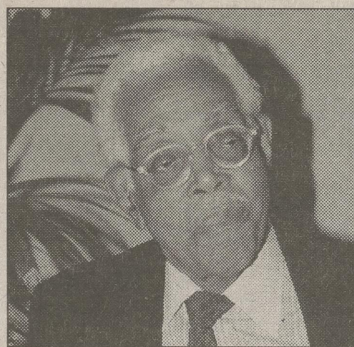
Foggy Bottom lost a lovely and very distinguished lady when Cathy Comiskey succumbed to cancer a little over a year ago. Hailing from Pennsylvania, most of her professional career was spent in Washington, D.C., and all of her residential life in Washington was spent in Foggy Bottom. She received her law degree from American University Law School, where she graduated first in her class. A longtime lawyer with the U.S. Export-Import Bank, where she specialized in international trade negotiations, she also spent a year as a consultant to the Senate Banking Committee.

She greatly enjoyed the Foggy Bottom community, and frequented the Kennedy Center where she enjoyed many of its productions, especially ballet. Biking was another one of her favorite

pastimes, including an exploration of the many facets of the Foggy Bottom/West End neighborhood in particular.

She was a devoted member of St. Stephen Martyr Church, just across 25th Street from where she lived until her untimely death. She did volunteer work at St. Stephen's for many years, including a tour of duty in the rectory. Officiating at her funeral mass were former St. Stephen's pastor Father Thomas Sheehan, former assistant pastor Father Val Keveny, and Monsignor Kenneth Roeltgen, then pastor, whose tragically untimely death occurred shortly thereafter.

A memorial scholarship, organized by her brother Bob Comiskey and her dear friend Aubrey Sarvis, is being created in her name at Georgian Court College. Information is available from the Director of Development and Foundation Relations, Georgian Court College, 900 Lakewood Avenue, Lakewood, NJ 08701 or by phone at 732-364-4442.



Walter Anderson

Walter Anderson, 88, longtime resident who lived at the Westbridge, died November 24 of cancer. He was a music professor, concert pianist, organist and composer, and directed the music programs at the National Endowment for the Arts. During his long career he chaired the music department at Ohio's Antioch College and at Wilberforce University. He was said to be the first African American to head a department at other than a historically black college.

He was named to his NEA post in 1968, became special assistant to the chairman, and was known for establishing model grant guidelines. He was named by the

American Symphony Orchestra League as one of 50 people whose talents influenced many orchestras during his career.

Among those who expressed condolences to his family was Coretta Scott King who described him as "not only a superb musician and a brilliant educator, but also one of the kindest and most caring human beings I have had the privilege of knowing." She stated that he had a "lasting impact on my life," and was "undoubtedly the most popular professor at Antioch College during my undergraduate experience."

Surviving him are FB activist and ANC member Richard Price, with whom he made his home, a daughter and a son, his brother Louis who lived in Temple Hills, and three grandchildren.

Louis Williams

Louis Williams, "Williams the Tailor," died March 31, 2003 at the age of 87. He was the owner of the tailoring shop on 21st Street in the 2000 Penn complex, which he billed as the place "Where People Come for the Best." Prior to opening this shop in 1982, he had opened one in Durham, North Carolina, and

then owned and operated several after moving to D.C.

He is survived by a son, Archie Alston of Washington, two sisters, and several nieces and nephews. The business is being operated by two of Mr. Williams' nieces, Debra and Rashan Datcher.

Note: The News thanks FB neighbor Steve Timlin, who is one of Mr. Williams' saddened customers, for this information. He also told the News that the family and employees of the shop "thank the Foggy Bottom community for your continued patronage and support over the years."

St. Mary's Church Sponsors Bahamas Cruise

St. Mary's Episcopal Church is again sponsoring a Bahamas cruise May 30-June 5, with the proceeds to benefit the historic church's renovation project. The Carnival cruise ship departs from Baltimore (no flying necessary) and visits Key West, Nassau and Freeport. The cost ranges from \$849 to \$1229, depending on stateroom. The package includes roundtrip motor coach to Baltimore. For more information, call Mary Brown, longtime parishioner and FBA member, at 882-7968.

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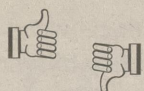
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Critic's Corner



By Bob Anthony

Textile Museum Showcases African-American Quilts

One of the most under-rated and most sparsely attended museums, The Textile Museum, has a most exciting show of "African-American Quilts" that proves the artistic merits of these works of art, primitive though they may be. This showing has a dozen quilts from the Robert and Helen Cargo Collection to be found in the International Quilt Study Center in Nebraska who lent these pieces for the current "Blues & Dreams" exhibition in art venues around the city.

One of the most startling in this show is Yvonne Wells "Yesterday, Civil Rights in the South," which tells a poignant history of the trials and tribulations of the civil rights movement. It should be classed with some of Bear-den's collages found in his current show at the National Gallery of Art. The rest of the quilts in this showing reflect lots of personality of the

When It Snows...

1. Property owners must clean snow and ice from sidewalks within eight hours after snow stops falling, as well as handicapped curb ramps.

2. Sand or other abrasives may be spread when ice cannot be removed.

3. Many homeowners will lend snow shovels if necessary.

We are all urged to be good neighbors to prevent falls, especially by the elderly, and to "take pity" on postal carriers and other delivery personnel!

stitchers, a couple that were only found hidden under the bed of the quilt-maker so one wonders what shame or exposing it may have held for the designer while she was alive. And that is what makes this show fantastic—to try to discern the psyche of the owners, not unlike the famous earless self portrait of Van Gogh.

This is a highly recommended show and a chance to visit the best gift shop in the city. It is a great place to fulfill those holiday requests. 2320 S Street, N.W. 667-0441. (To 2/29)

WG Gallery Showcases Three FB Artists

Those who missed the holiday show at the Watergate Gallery can still get a glimpse of the paintings of three exciting artists which are still on display.

These are Amelia Hankin's monoprints which are derived from the artist's close examination of objects found in natural surroundings.

Linda Tish Goldstein's watercolors—some of familiar scenes such as Key Bridge and the Washington Cathedral—are a part of this exhibition. Linda has several paintings of cats that exhibit her remarkable ability to capture their personalities. She is available to do "pet portraits" as well as people portraits! Contact the Gallery.

The third contributor to the show is Helen Zughaib. Her paintings in gouache which have a distinctive quality of pattern and color have been well received.

All three artists live here in Foggy Bottom. Stop by; it's located next to the Safeway in the Watergate Mall. The telephone number is 338-4488. Watch for continuing shows of local artists.

DPW Came Through With Street Cleaning

Several streets in Foggy Bottom received a good cleaning the day before and the day after New Year's Day. Work was concentrated on 25th & 26th Streets which had the heaviest accumulation of leaves, and the weather cooperated by staying warm enough for the sweepers to operate.

Thanks go to DPW's Gerald Love and his team of two men and two women driving the three big sweepers and a large dump truck. (The truck was quickly filled and had to make a run to empty the accumulation and then return for more.) Despite the no-parking signs, many parked cars impeded the collection, and Love received no response to several requests for traffic enforcement personnel. So the rakes came into play, and were wielded by Love and Ellie Becker (who never wants to see another rake!) Ellie also raked on New Year's Day, aided by neighbors Mel Maeda and Mark Jackson, moving leaves from the gutters to the middle of the street for collection the next day.

Update, from page 1

rectly behind and was a part of the land of a large house on 26th Street purchased during 2003 by Bruno Freschi, also an architect. It would be the only house in and facing that section of the alley.

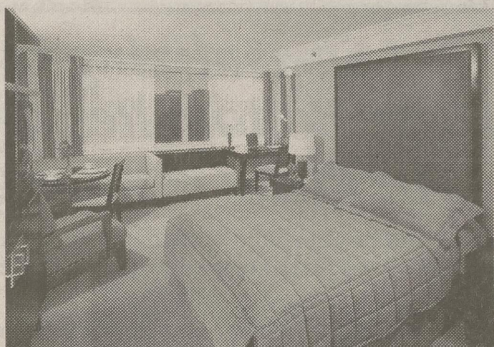
Neighbors of the house, who had not received any official notification concerning the plans, stated their dismay at its bulk and height (43 feet). Because the Mews is part of the Foggy Bottom Historic District, the project was listed on the agenda of the Historic Preservation Review Board for a hearing the day after the ANC meeting, but was not heard because HPRB staff had not completed its work on the matter.

The Foggy Bottom Historic District Conservancy has filed a letter with the HPRB listing several items of concern. Its major objection is allowing a 43-foot structure within an area with a "prevailing address height limit of 24 feet." The letter pointed out that another nearby home "was constructed to live within the prevailing address height limit of 24 feet and a design that related to the form and detail of the original his-

to next page

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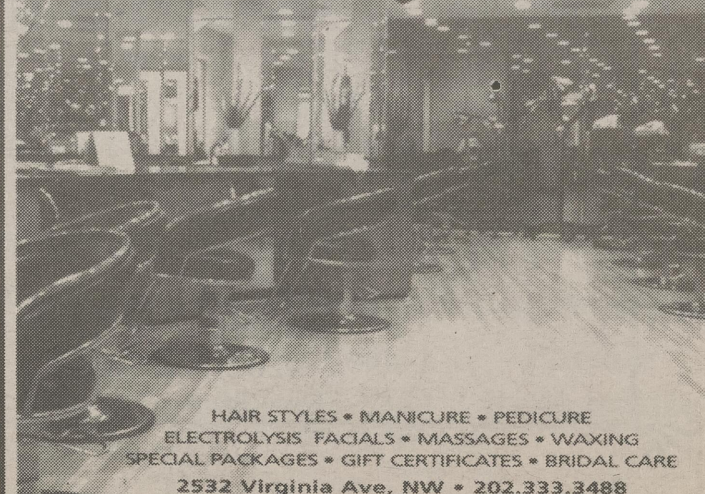
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Update, from previous page toric contributing homes. That owner suffered no harm." The current plans, if permitted, could allow "every other lot in the area to be built to the same height. Indeed, an addition could be made to every home, . . . and fly in the face of historic preservation's purpose. . . ."

The report by HPRB staff member Tim Dennée recommended approval "of the scale and general massing of the concept, with the condition that the height be lowered at least to the zoning-mandated 40 feet." He also noted that the "project may have substantial zoning issues. Zoned R-3-B, its lot size appears to be insufficient; at 927 square feet, it appears to be 1,073 square feet short of the minimum lot area required. The lot width appears insufficient as well, 18.17 feet instead of the required 20 feet." There was also discussion of whether or not the lot is "grandfathered with regard to lot size nonconformity. . . . Zoning considerations aside, the [HPRB] must review the project in terms of compatibility or incompatibility with the character of the historic district."

During the meeting, Ellie Becker asked him why he would build a home facing an apartment building loading dock. It is also next to two other apartment buildings and

their trash receptacles and loading docks. She also queried him to again state before the audience that he intended to live there. Another house was built recently nearby which is rented by college students the neighbors say are using as a fraternity house and are a disruptive element. Freschi has subsequently written a letter to neighbors assuring "that this will indeed be Sid's home."

A hearing was scheduled before the Historic Preservation Review Board on January 22. They must also appear before the Board of Zoning Adjustment.

HPRB Clears Columbia Hospital Project

In early December the Historic Preservation Review Board gave its approval to the Columbia Hospital condominium project proposed by Trammell Crow, and construction preparations have begun. The Zoning Commission gave its approval in September, 2003.

The original application was filed almost a year ago, and various differences and concerns have delayed approval. Plans call for restoration and careful renovation of the original building, and construction of two wings along 24th and 25th Streets. The

complex is to contain up to 235 residential units, approximately 325 parking spaces and "neighborhood-serving" retail establishments, such as a grocery store.

Trammell Crow earlier entered into a covenant with the Foggy Bottom Association to provide an amenity of several million dollars in exchange for releasing an earlier covenant entered into with the hospital. (See May 2003 Foggy Bottom News.) The funds will belong to a "Neighborhood Defense and Improvement Trust Cor-



poration," and will be managed by a board of trustees. The trust funds will be completely separate from the Foggy Bottom Association. FBA President Ron Cocome, writing in last May's issue, said: "Final decisions on expenditures will be made by the FBA Board which is composed of individuals from all quadrants of the community elected by the membership on an annual basis."

H&W Hours & Access Request Deferred

The D.C. Zoning Commission again declined to grant GWU's request to expand both the open hours and number of allowed users at the Health & Wellness Center on G Street. The Commissioners opted to defer the decision until the legal status of GW's compliance with the campus plan is clarified in court.

The university had requested that the center be allowed open until 1:00 a.m.

nor were other private health facilities which would find it difficult (and unfair) to try to compete with the Center's tax-deductible status.

7-11 Granted 3-Year Extension

Following a hearing in September, the Board of Zoning Adjustment in early October renewed for three years permission for the 7-11 to operate its store on New Hampshire Avenue. The store had asked for longer extensions (10 or 6 years), but in response to requests from residents, the BZA opted for a shorter period to prevent violations of a management agreement with the neighborhood. Late-night deliveries were among the problems neighbors cited.

At the same hearing the 7-11 withdrew its request to stay open 24 hours, which was opposed by the majority of residents testifying. At the same time, 7-11 announced it is planning to open a 24-hour facility in Mitchell Hall, one of GW's dormitories, in the fall of 2004.

Old GW Hospital Demolished

The building which formerly housed the George Washington University Hospital was torn down during the month of December, and currently is a large vacant lot. To date, despite many requests, the University has refused to inform the community or zoning authorities as to its plans for the property, an extremely large one abutting Pennsylvania Avenue.

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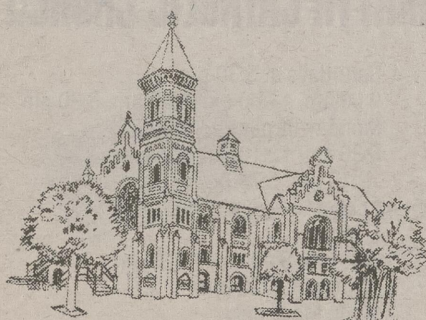
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The United Church is a union congregation of the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church.

Dr. Souryal Teaches Overseas Welcomes Dr. Barnes to Practice

Dr. Bert Souryal, a long-time ophthalmologist and eye surgeon on F Street, N.W., has made some changes in his life in the past couple of years. One change was his introduction of Dr. Reginald Barnes as the owner and medical director of his practice, after being his instructor and observing his medical and surgical talents at Washington Hospital Center and GW Hospital. Dr. Barnes is also trained in endocrinology.

Dr. Souryal has not retired, but has spent and will spend more and more of his time in overseas areas sharing his skills and knowledge with both patients and physicians in training. His next trip will be back to the island nation of Malta where he teaches surgical skills to young medical students from all over northern Africa. He described this small Maltese school where funding

is in short supply for items we take for granted such as a copy machine, and for an old van to transport the students to religious services on Sunday (buses don't run that day). He is heartened by the possibility of some kind of connection between George Washington University and this small but needed educational institution. Earlier Dr. Souryal spent many months in Aswan, Egypt, helping with medical and surgical treatment in that area. His wife, Ferial, usually accompanies him on these medical missionary trips. Both are natives of Egypt.

Hotel, from page 1

would provide, the money provided to WEI for the sale of property now useless under lease until 2065, and the pledges of a continuing restaurant and health club operation. The negotiated agreement also provides some controls on leasing of the new condo units.

It would seem that the Boards of Directors of both Watergate South and Watergate West oppose the conver-

sion. The Board of WEI has narrowly voted to oppose the deal as well. It is unclear whether the January 22 membership meeting of WEI will be advisory or whether the Board of Directors will abide by the results of the vote taken at that meeting.

Reason Replaced by Rancor

This adventure in Cooperative living has been marked not by cooperation and reasonable debate but by increasingly personalized rancor. The result has been that the negotiated agreement with the developers was not refined to address its weaknesses and, so, to make it the most viable proposal possible. Instead, the agreement is now being presented by those who oppose it with those very weaknesses at issue. This has become a game of one-upmanship—a very bad arena in which to make a decision.

The wild card—as it often is—is the District government. For, the Zoning Commission could well approve

Caroline Coates Supplies Nov.-Dec. Sales

The listing of sales below was provided by Caroline Coates of Coates Realty (333-0017).

Address	Bldg.	Bed/Bath	Sale Price	Date
2527 Queen Anne's		3/2.5	592,000	11/3
922 24th	Jefferson House	1/1	210,000	11/5
700 New Hampshire	Watergate, 12th fl.	2/2.5	850,000	11/5
700 New Hampshire	Watergate, 11th fl.	1/2	560,000	11/5
955 26th	Griffin, 2nd fl.	1/1	338,500	11/10
3 Wash. Circle, 10th fl.		2/1.5	462,000	11/17
955 26th	Griffin, 8th fl.	0/1	201,000	11/18
2141 I	President, 4th fl.	1/1	171,000	11/21
2426 I		2/2.5	606,500	11/21
2700 Virginia	Watergate, 1st fl.	3/3.1	858,000	11/24
911 Hughes Mews		2/1	329,000	12/3
2501 K	Barclay, 6th fl.	1/1	299,000	12/5
800 25th	Plaza, 3rd fl.	2/2.5	675,000	12/5
922 24th	Jefferson House	1/1	236,000	12/8
800 25th	Plaza	2/2.5	695,000	12/12
700 New Hampshire	Watergate	1/1	370,000	12/20
813 25th		2/1	485,000	12/23
2416 I		2/1.1	486,000	12/23
1001 26th	Potomac Overlook, 6th fl.	1/1	279,000	12/23
22 Snows Court		2/1	410,000	12/31

the amendment to the PUD despite the opposition of the Watergate Co-op Boards. In fact, given that agency's guidelines, it seems more likely than not that it will do so. Then what? A residential

property in the middle of the Watergate complex with no negotiated restrictions or benefits. The owners of the hotel are determined to sell. The unsettled question remains: to whom and for what use.

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*Legal Holidays: 10:00 Mass only

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Foggy Bottom Folks

School Without Walls, FB's neighborhood senior high school, has been in the news recently. St. Mary's Court reported in its newsletter that two SWW students, expert in pool and billiards, will be on hand weekly there to tutor residents and perhaps set up a Pool Group.

Back in November, the girls' soccer team defeated Wilson for the city Interscholastic Athletic Association championship. The team's captain, **Jalika Street**, was awarded the Wendy's High School Heisman Scholarship Citizenship Award for D.C. at a ceremony at the University of Maryland. Criteria for the award include maintaining at least a "B" average, and participation in community service and athletics.

Melita Rodeck's tower house has been sold to **Tom Mallon** and **Bill Bodenschatz**, just recently in town from Connecticut. Bill is an artist and arts administrator; he has taken on the temporary moving in and fixing-up work to be

done in the house. Tom will be hiding out on the third floor, which has become his writing room. He is currently heavily into research on the house for an article for the Phi Beta Kappa magazine on his experiences moving into a house with history. The Washingtonian magazine noted Tom's new position with the National Council on the Humanities which precipitated the move, just in time, he says, to purchase and cherish Melita's convenient and charming house. He is also the author of a novel, "Two Moons," in which FB's Naval Observatory plays a major "role." He is also the author of "Harry and Clara," "Dewey Defeats Truman" and several works of non-fiction.

Jeff Marootian, former ANC commissioner, has been appointed to the D.C. Mayor's Commission for HIV/AIDS Policy. Marootian has been active in local affairs and earned awards for service to the community, including being named a Presidential Administrative Fellow. He now lives in Ward 6.



Jeff Marootian, shown with FBNews' Rita Champagne

Back home again on Eye Street are **Mark and Jeanine Jackson**, two State Department officers who have "traveled the world" on their most recent assignments. First to Saudi Arabia, then Hong Kong when it reverted to China, Kenya and most recently an extended and exciting time in Afghanistan. Coming back with them were their two felines, accompanied by Louie, a charming green and yellow tortoise acquired along the way, and an incredible number of "souvenirs," including a piece of the Berlin Wall.

A much less enjoyable—but very essential—trip was

undertaken by Jeanine, as she traveled to Baghdad to work on the establishment of the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, and the housing and status of the large (6000+) American non-military contingent in that troubled country.

Settled in their new home in Forest Hills are **Kerry and Ari Zymelman**, who formerly lived in Queen Anne's Lane. Although this has not been verified, it is suspected that the move was at least partially prompted by their children, **Talia and Joseph**, who are getting bigger and probably need more room. Kerry was instrumental in caring for the 26th Street children's park. Her efforts and the family will be missed.

A couple of new neighbors are **Tina and Richard Donnell** who bought a house on Eye Street. They are both attorneys, and formerly lived in the Watergate. They are anticipating the arrival of a son or daughter sometime in 2004.

Another good neighbor, **Patrick Cody**, made a big move during the holiday sea-

son. He moved from his former house to one five houses away. Not only did he buy his new house, but his old one sold quickly, happily for his bank account. Patrick is a member of the terrific team which delivers the FBNews door to door.

Jack Olender, Washington malpractice attorney and resident of Foggy Bottom, held the 18th Annual Olender Foundation award ceremony in early December. Recipients included Mac McGarry of "It's Academic," Maudine Cooper and Jerry A. Moore, III, of the Urban League, and NBC-4 entertainment critic Arch Campbell.



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Neighborhood Datebook

Monday, January 26: Ziva's Spanish Dance Ensemble, an "elegant and spectacular interpreter of Spanish Dance," couples modern music with traditional flamenco dance. Corcoran Gallery of Art. 7:00 p.m.**

Monday, January 26: Foggy Bottom Association meeting, with D.C. Councilmember Vincent Orange, as well as a presentation by Gregory A. Walker, WMATA Project Manager, D.C. Transit Futures, on possible new transit alternatives, e.g. light rail and bus rapid transit. All residents are invited and encouraged to attend. Melrose Hotel, 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 28: "Conversations with Extraordinary Artists: A Luncheon Roundtable," with art in public places as the theme. Panelists include Michael McBride of Metro Arts, and Jennifer Gibson of the Art and Architecture Program of the General Services Administration. Info/reservations, 331-7282, ext. 16. Arts Club of Washington, 2017 I Street, N.W. \$15 includes lunch. 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 28: John Eaton in the Jazz Age/Cabaret!, featuring music of the 1920s by "Washington's premier jazz pianist." Included is music by Gershwin, Louie Armstrong, Hoagy Carmichael, Jerome Kern, Fats Waller and Cole Porter. Corcoran Gallery of Art. \$20; members \$16. 7:00 p.m.**

Thursday, January 29: Zoning Commission public hearing on the application by BRE/Watergate to convert the Watergate Hotel to an apartment house. Suite 220 South, 441 Fourth Street, N.W. (Judiciary Square Metro). 6:30 p.m.*

Monday, February 2: "An Evening with Kojo Nnamdi and Joe Barber," featuring the host of "Evening Exchange" and "Around Towner" panelist/arts columnist in a panel discussion. Corcoran Gallery of Art. \$14; members \$10. 7:00 p.m.**

Tuesday, February 3: Kennedy Center Open Rehearsal Series, featuring American Ballet Theatre. \$12; subscribers/members \$10. 2:00 p.m. #

Tuesday, February 3: Concert by The Harlem Connection, "interpreters of the jazz of the Harlem Renaissance." The two artists, Cabaret singer, actress and playwright Jeree Wade and pianist and musical director Frank Owens perform music of the 20's and 30's, including Ellington, Eubie Blake, and Billie Holiday. Corcoran Gallery of Art. \$20; members \$15. 7:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, February 4: The Buck Creek Jazz Band. Corcoran Gallery of Art. 12:30 p.m.**

Thursday, February 5: Jenny McKean Moore Reading Series presents Honor Moore, poet, biographer and playwright. Marvin Center 3rd Floor Amphitheater, 800 21st Street, N.W. Info: 994-6180. 8:00 p.m.

Friday, February 13: Meet the Artists of the National Symphony Orchestra series, featuring the NSO Musicians on

Beethoven. Included in this "insider's perspective on great music" are excerpts from that evening's works, discussion of the inspiration and challenges the artists experience, dinner in a private reception room, followed by the concert. \$35; subscribers/members \$33. 6:00-7:45 p.m. #

Tuesday, February 17: Gail Collins, editorial page editor of the New York Times, presents a talk on her book "America's Women: 400 Years of Dolls, Drudges, Helpmates and Heroines." Corcoran Gallery of Art. \$16; members \$12. 7:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, February 18: Royce Campbell, solo guitar. Corcoran Gallery of Art. 12:30 p.m.**

Wednesday, February 18: Concert on piano and violin by Aidan and Dainius Puodziukai, "highly regarded" Lithuanian musicians, in celebration of Lithuania's National Day, performing music by Bach, Chopin, Debussy, Paganini and de Saraste. Corcoran Gallery of Art. \$20; members \$15. 7:00 p.m.**

Thursday, February 19: Mardi Gras at the Corcoran, featuring Louisiana artist Chestee Harrington, for the food, music, visual art and storytelling of southern Louisiana. Reception included. Corcoran Gallery of Art. \$20; members \$15. 7:00 p.m.**

Sunday, February 22: Conversations Around Process Theology, Lecture II in a series by theologian Bruce G. Epperly, Ph.D., "The Holy Adventure: Progressive/Process Spirituality." United Church, 20th & G Streets, N.W. 2:00 p.m.

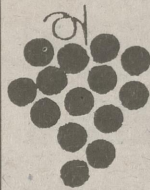
Wednesday-Sunday, February 25-29: "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" by Tennessee Williams, performed by the GW Department of Theatre & Dance. Tickets: 432-7328. Marvin Theatre, 800 21st Street, N.W. 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2:00 p.m.

*See article elsewhere in this issue.

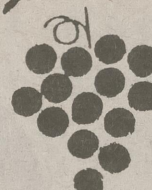
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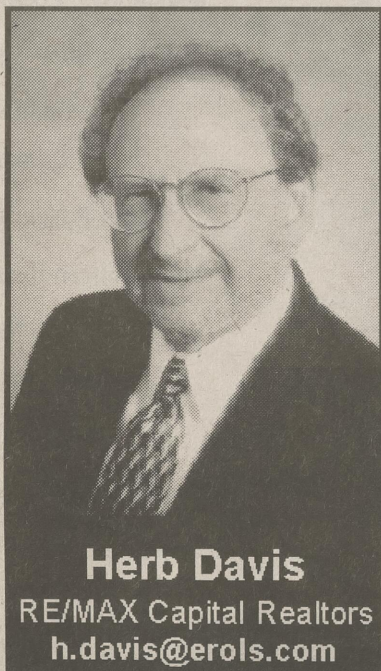
To combat the national blood shortage, which is now at a major all-time low, GW Hospital and the American Red Cross will stage blood drives the third Thursday of every other month. The drives will be held from 7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m., minus a 12:00-1:00 lunch period. Drives are scheduled for March 18, May 13, July 15, October 14, November 11, and December 16. Call 1-800-448-3543 for information and/or appointment.

* * *

A program sponsored by the Foggy Bottom Feeding Foundation, established by the West End Citizens Association, has been established using the GW Hospital Cafeteria. Senior citizens who live in zip codes 20037 and 20006 can sign up for a 25% discount on regular meals eaten at the cafeteria. Funds for the program come from a so-called amenity ordered by the Zoning Commission in connection with the GWU building at 1957 E Street. Interested participants must complete a form indicating name, address, and date of birth, and deposit it in a box in the cafeteria. Cards will then be mailed, and must be presented to the cashier when the meal is paid for.

In the March issue:

- How new police service area proposal affects FB/WE
- Results of the Watergate Hotel and Hughes Mews house hearings



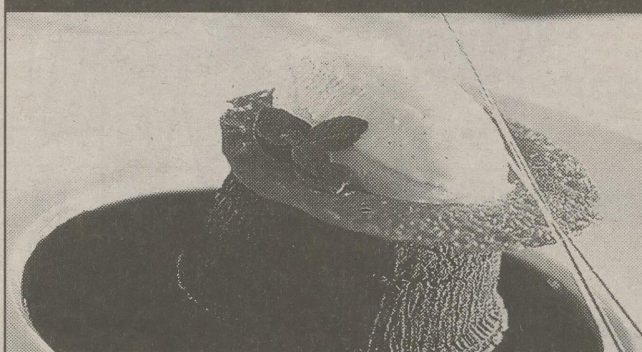
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